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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SECURITY INFORMATION

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [REDACTED] 25X1A

CD NO.

COUNTRY Peru/Ecuador/Czechoslovakia

DATE DISTR. 16 June 1952

SUBJECT Visit to Peru of Czech Charge in Ecuador

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE OF
25X1C INFO. [REDACTED]NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)PLACE
ACQUIRED [REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO. 25X1XRETURN TO CIA
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1. [REDACTED]

2. While in Lima, Varhola visited the offices of Jose Havlicek, an anti-Communist Czech, on 9 May and again on 10 May. Havlicek, president of the Asociacion Checoeslovaca del Peru, was formerly connected with the Czech government-owned firm, Ander and Son, and now has his own representation business, known as ORESA. Havlicek stated that he was informed by Varhola that large amounts of Czech-manufactured merchandise ordered by Peruvian firms had been left unclaimed in the customs warehouse at Callao. This merchandise, consisting largely of printed synthetic cloth and other textiles, microscopes, farm machinery, and enamelware, had in some cases been stored in customs warehouses for more than two years and, storage charges of more than 30,000 soles [approximately \$2,000] had accumulated. Some of this merchandise, according to Havlicek, was now being sold at auction to pay storage charges.

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3. Varhola informed Havlicek that the principal purpose of his trip to Lima was to find a buyer for this merchandise who would agree also to pay the storage charges. Havlicek informed Varhola that Czech merchandise had, during the past few years, earned the reputation of being of inferior quality. He pointed out that the synthetic cloth Varhola hoped to sell at fifty cents a square meter could be bought in the United States for only thirty-five cents a square meter. Havlicek told Varhola that he would find it difficult to sell the merchandise.

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4. Raymond Schwarzkopf, a Czech businessman in Lima, substantially confirmed the above information. He stated that he was authorized some time ago by Centrotex in Prague to liquidate, at any "acceptable" price, certain merchandise that had been left unclaimed at the customs warehouse. When Schwarzkopf began to dispose of this merchandise at very low prices he was told by Centrotex to stop the sale, as a representative of the Czech Government would soon visit Lima to dispose of the remaining merchandise.

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1. [REDACTED] reported Varhola's departure from Guayaquil on 4 May 1952 for a 30-day round-trip excursion to Lima.

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